AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as shown below. Please cancel claims 2-5, 8-9, and 11-23 without prejudice or disclaimer and amend claims 1, 6-7, and 10. A complete listing of all pending claims is presented.

1. (Currently-Amended) A magnetic tape tracking control apparatus for controlling tracking of tracks on a magnetic tape by a rotary head, comprising:

[a] first image data generating means for encoding an inputted video signal to generate [said] video data;

[a] second image data generating means for generating search video data on the basis of said video data generated by said first image data generating means; [and]

[a] recording means for recording, on said tracks, said video data, [generated by said first generating means,] said search video data, track number information and positional information associated with a recording position of said search video data, wherein said recording means records said video data and said search video data in a main area of said track with said track number information and records said positional information in a subcode area with said track number information; [data generated by second generating means and positional information associated with a recording position of said search video data.]

reference phase generating means for generating a reference phase in variable-speed reproduction;

tracking information generating means for generating a tracking phase corresponding to a position of one of said tracks, recorded with search video data, wherein said tracking information

3

generating means comprises:

counting means for counting clocks,

detecting means for detecting said search video data,

error lock detecting means for determining whether the phase of said counting

means is locked to a target track, and

first setting means for setting said counting means by a count value

corresponding to the track number information of said detected search video data; and

comparing means for comparing said reference phase with said tracking phase to control

tracking on the basis of a result of the comparison.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently-Amended) The magnetic tape tracking control apparatus according to claim

[5] 1, said rotary head comprising a first head capable of reproducing said search video data and

a second head incapable of [reproduction] reproducing[; and] said search video data; said second

generating means further comprising [a second setting means for setting a count value of]

correcting means for correcting said counting means on the basis of a difference between an

outputted count value of said counting means and the track number information from said

subcode area [information] reproduced from said magnetic tape through said second head.

7. (Currently-Amended)   The magnetic tape tracking control apparatus according to

claim [5] 1, wherein said second generating means further comprises [a second setting means for

setting, on the basis of the count value of said counting means and reproduced information from

said track recorded with said search video data, the count value of said counting means]

correcting means for correcting said counting means on the basis of a difference between an

outputted count value of said counting means and the track number information of said search

video data.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently-Amended)   A magnetic tape tracking control method for a magnetic tape

tracking control apparatus for controlling tracking of tracks on a magnetic tape by a rotary head,

comprising:

a first image data generating step for encoding an inputted video signal to generate said

video data;

a second image data generating step for generating search video data on the basis of said

video data generated in said first image data generating step; [and]

a recording step for recording, on said tracks, said video data, said search video data,

track number information and positional information associated with a recording position of said

search video data, wherein said recording step records said video data and said search video data

in a main area of said track with said track number information and records said positional

information in a subcode area with said track number information; [generated in said first

generating step, said search video data generated in second generating step and positional

information associated with a recording position of said search video data.]

generating a reference phase in variable-speed reproduction;

generating a tracking phase corresponding to a position of one of said tracks, recorded

with search video data, wherein generating the tracking phase comprises:

a counting step for counting clocks;

a detecting step for detecting said search video data;

an error lock detecting step for determining whether the phase of said counting step is

locked to a target track, and

a first setting step for setting said counting step by a count value corresponding to the

track number information of said detected search video data; and

comparing said reference phase with said tracking phase to control tracking on the basis

of a result of the comparison.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)